

Service Aviation

spirit, customs and atmosphere of R.A.F. life by bringing them into the closest possible contact with actual service conditions.

French Carrier at Portsmouth

THE French aircraft carrier *Arromanches* has been paying a courtesy visit to Portsmouth, arriving from Le Havre on June 11th and sailing from Portsmouth for Brest on June 14th. She was accompanied by the French destroyers *Hova* and *Marocain*, and her arrival off the Outer Spit buoy was marked by the firing of gun salutes. During the week-end officers and men of the *Arromanches* visited the R.N. Air Station, Bramcote, to witness the air display reported in this issue. The *Arromanches* was previously known as the British light fleet carrier *Colossus*, lent to France in August, 1946, and renamed with His Majesty's approval.

B.A.F.O. Gliding

THE use of radio for air-to-air and air-to-ground communication was a novelty at this year's B.A.F.O. gliding contests. Two Weihe sailplanes were fitted with radio equipment, with which the pilots could communicate with one another during flight and with vehicles on the ground. The competition was held at Fasseberg, and the contestants flew a total of 350 hours and covered an aggregate distance of some 6,550 miles. During the 10 days' gliding, the British goal flight record was broken three times, one pilot qualified for the "Gold C" gliding certificate and 10 for the "Silver C." The Brady Trophy for the highest team score was won by Oerlinghausen with 7,251 points. Scharfoldendorf were second with 6,078, and Wunstorf third with 5,913. The B.A.F.O. Trophy, for teams of less skilled pilots, was won by Gutersloh (1,483 points), with Luneberg second (1,256) and Hamburg third (1,085).

Cadets See the World

MORE than 250 proficient A.T.C. cadets have made overseas flights as "supernumerary air quartermasters," when spare seats have been available, in R.A.F. Transport Command aircraft.

Birds and Bombs

MR. GEOFFREY DE FREITAS, M.P., Under-Secretary of State for Air, said in a speech to a meeting of ramblers and hikers at Headley Heath, Surrey, on June 6th:—

"We are always being urged in Parliament to move our training grounds or ranges from where they are. Everyone agrees that the training grounds and ranges are necessary, but everyone wants them far away from him. We have to give and take on this. R.A.F. ranges have made me and my predecessors unpopular up and down the country. Unpopular, that is, except with ornithologists, because, strange as it may seem, the best method of developing a bird sanctuary is to declare it a bombing range. Nobody knows why swans, terns, snipe, wild duck and other birds multiply so quickly in a bombing range. Perhaps practice bombing is less disturbing to birds than careless walkers who do



SENIOR ENTRANT: Air Marshal Sir Cyril Cooke, K.B.E., C.B., C.B.E., A.O.C. Maintenance Command, was one of the competitors at the R.A.F. Bisley meeting.

not follow the high standards of the Ramblers' Association; or perhaps the birds find that raising a family takes their minds off the bombs."

Solicitor's Gifts

TO his former gifts of eight silver challenge cups for competition in various fields of R.A.F. sport, Mr. C. E. Brady, a retired solicitor, has recently added a silver challenge bowl, for competition among the members of the R.A.F. Rowing Association. Like the other trophies given by him, it was designed by Mr. James Warwick; it was exhibited in the "Britain Can Make It" Exhibition and

is entirely hand-made. Mr. Brady's first offer of seven cups was made in 1945 and the trophies, all made to original designs, were handed to the R.A.F. Sports Board early in the following year.

A.M., Take a Bow

RAISING the matter of Ministers' replies to Members' letters, in the House of Commons recently, Mr. Carson (Isle of Thanet) remarked: "I said, when I raised this matter two years ago, that I thought the Air Ministry came first. I think it still has pride of place; I do not say in the matter of speed, but certainly in regard to the carefulness with which it looks into matters which are raised, and the good English in which the replies are written."

Permanent Commissions

THE following officers have been selected for permanent commissions in the branches shown:—

GENERAL DUTIES BRANCH

S/Ls. A. G. Conway, D.F.C., L. W. Davies, V. H. de la Perrelle, R. Herrick, G. L. Matthey, M. P. Wareham, D.F.C. F/Ls. M. G. Crotty, D.F.C., J. G. Mejor, D.F.C. W. H. Miller, D.F.C., D. P. Samuelson, D.F.C.

TECHNICAL BRANCH

W/C. E. C. Ashley. S/Ls. F. G. Abbott, W. D. Browne, M.B.E., C. W. Crimmin, M.B.E., C. E. Heighton. F/Ls. G. R. Adams, W. H. Cauley, P. M. Durman, L. Lewington, G. M. McLean, G. R. N. Taylor, S. R. Walton, M.B.E.

EQUIPMENT BRANCH

S/Ls. F. D. Hynes, R. D. G. White.

SECRETARIAL BRANCH

W/C. A. T. Arnold. S/Ls. G. C. R. Ackrill, C. A. Cooke, D.F.C., E. Cotton, D.F.C., B. E. Crawley, A.F.C., F. S. Stewart. F/Ls. A. M. Campbell, D. Field.

AIRCRAFT CONTROL BRANCH

S/Ls. G. H. A. Newman, J. H. Ratcliff, D.F.C. F/L. K. B. Crosby.

MARINE CRAFT BRANCH

F/L. L. R. Flower, M.B.E., M.M.

MEDICAL BRANCH

S/L. T. J. G. Price, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.



SIGNAL SPEED: The day before this picture was taken at Watton, Norfolk, A. V-M. Addison, C.B., C.B.E., was in Montreal, having just concluded a lecture tour of the U.S.A. and Canada. He is seen making his annual inspection of the R.A.F. Central Signals Establishment with the Commandant, A. Cdre. L. Dalton-Morris, C.B.E. The A. V-M. is A.O.C., No. 90 Group.

AIR MAIL, FREE